

The Exciter



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PICNIC

The San Antonio Radio Club will have their May 17th meeting at McArthur Park. This will be an informal meeting with all members, their families and friends invited. A catered Bar-b-que dinner with all the trimmings and refreshments will be served for \$1.50. All members will be contacted by telephone for reservations. Anyone else wishing a reservation should make reservations in advance by calling DI2-2225 or TA6-7839. Meeting will start anytime after 6:00 PM with dinner served at 6:30 PM. Make your reservations and plan to join in on the fun and food.

DXpedition

The ALAMO YLS and members of the San Antonio Radio Club will join forces on May 19th and travel to LaVernia to operate portable. The purpose of the expedition is to put Wilson County on the Air and also enabling stations to Contact WSSC for certificate Credit. Several transmitters will be operating at the same time on 20, 40, and 80 Meters. Look for them on SSB, AM, and some CW operation. All QSLs will be answered upon receipt by custodian of station license. The San Antonio Radio Club has a beautiful OSL which was designed by Emile Torres a member of the club.

Plans are to have WSSC on the air from 11:00 AM until 5:00 PM on May 19th.

WEST GULF CONVENTION JUNE 7 - 8 - 9 - 1963

The West Gulf Division Convention will be held in McAllen, Texas on June 7, 8, 9, 1963 at the newly completed Civic Center.

Friday night will be highlighted by the pre-convention party to be held at the Fairway Motor Hotel. This event will feature the Border atmosphere, (among other things).

Saturday will be THE day. Master of Ceremonies will be the well known and well liked "Soupy" Groves W5NW. Speakers will include:

Jim Sage - S.W. Bell Telephone

"On the Maser"

R. W. Drobish

"Operation In World Wide"

Bill Ashley of Connell Dubilier

Irving Seligmann

"On Printed Circuits"

H. C. Vane, Sr. of R C A

Wayne Green of V H F

Major Henry C. Becker, Chief of Army MARS

Something still in the mill is a five day operating permit for mobile operation in Mexico to be coupled with a post convention vacation trip to Monterrey. All indications look good as of this date.

Prizes will be plentiful with a Drake Transceiver as the Grand Prize.

Aeronautical mobil stations will be welcomed by our aeronautical welcoming committee. The convention site is next to the airport.

Luncheons for VHF, SSB, RTTY, and ladies. Prizes and lectures at each plus a treasure chest filled with goodies for some lucky YL or XYL.

It goes without saying that there will be invitations for Wouf Hong and SWOOP.

All of this plus the tropical days and nights for which McAllen is so famous as a tourist mecca and gateway to Romantic Old Mexico.

McAllen--one of the big advantages of a summer winter vacation at McAllen is the ease of making trips to alluring Mexico. Tourists can take their choice of three route segments to Mexico City.

Travel time from McAllen to Monterrey over an excellent paved road is only 4 hours; to Mexico City 14 hours; to Reynosa 15 minutes. The two principal roads to Mexico City are cool, summer highways for much of their lengths as they traverse the Sierra Madre chain.

McAllen--Because McAllen is rated as the leading winter resort of Texas, people sometimes get the erroneous idea that McAllen and the Valley are not attractive summer vacation places, says Wade Terrell, manager of the McAllen Chamber of Commerce.

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The editorials and articles by contributing editors represent the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the members of the San Antonio Radio Club or its officers.



MCALLEN'S NEW CIVIC CENTER--Opened last year, McAllen's modern civic center on South Tenth has opened new vista to local citizens. More conventions, concerts, expositions, road shows, trade shows, sales meetings, fraternal and civic meetings, home shows, banquets and other functions are now scheduled in the City of Palms. The auditorium area will seat 1,800, has one of the largest stages, best lighting, and best acoustics in South Texas. The convention hall will seat 1,000. The parking area has spaced for 700 cars. Adequate dressing room facilities make it possible to bring large entertaining troupes.

Terrell quotes U. S. Weather Bureau figures to prove that most of the South and Midwest, except at lake and mountain resorts are warmer in summer than Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Last summer, for example, a city in Montana registered 110 degrees. It was never that hot in McAllen.

The mistaken idea on Valley summer weather comes naturally from the region's south geographic location, Terrell points out. Breezes from the Gulf of Mexico and aridity keep the Valley cooler than most of the rest of the country. One man testified that in 28 years in McAllen he needed air conditioning in his bedroom for a few hours a total of four nights.

Many well-to-do people with ample south and southwest house ventilation, do not use air conditioning at night. However, all of the 36 hotels and motels, except a half dozen of the smaller places, are air conditioned. So, says Terrell, summer vacationers won't freeze to death, neither will they sweat in bed. He said if some cold blooded visitor fancied he was too hot, all he had to do to get a free fan would be to cut one from the thousands of palms in the pleasant Valley.

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DX NOTES

One of the nicest things about DX'ing is that you may occasionally QSO a home town boy far from home who is now DX. On 40 meters the other morning I called KA2KS and found the operator on the other end to be Roy Perez, K5COV. Roy was for a time KA9RP, and is now finishing out his few months of service time remaining at KA2KS. He explained that he was limited to 100 watts on 40 but could run a KW on 20 and 15. The limit wasn't hurting Roy's signals on 40 however, as he was a solid 579. Roy is looking forward to June when he will be home and then plans to enter college. He is a CW fan and a good operator. Let's hope he is home in time to help out at W5SC come Field Day.

Another former San Antonian, now DX, is Mac, W5BVI. Mac has been worked on 20 SSB by several locals. His call now is DL5AO and his QTH is Hoff AFB in Germany. Mac is looking for San Antonio contacts and wants to win one of our San Antonio Radio Club Certificates.

PRE-REGISTRATION COUPON

I want to Pre-Register for the A.R.R.L. West Gulf Convention June 7th, 8th & 9th at McAllen, Texas

Name _____ Address _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ CALL _____

Enclosed find my check for \$ _____ for _____ people (\$10.00 each)

Send me information on rooms and more about the Convention Prizes, Speakers, Displays, Banquet, Dance, Luncheons, the Magic Valley & Mexico.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE A.R.R.L., WEST GULF DIVISION
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Speaking of our Club Certificate, six DX stations have already qualified. They are KROJK, 4X4LX, VE3BKL, VK4TY, XE2DS and KH6DKA. Each of these stations received a special endorsement on their awards for being first in their country to qualify.

Gus, W4BPD, continues to be the big new DX-wise. After several weeks as FR7ZC/J at Juan da Nova, Gus was on from the Malagasy Republic (5R8) and then managed a two day stag at the Comoros Islands where he was FH8CE. Very few W5's contacted Gus there, but fortunately he plans to return after his Tromelin trip and maybe we'll have better luck next time. Gus expects to be at rare Tromelin Island during April for at least two weeks, and this effort will undoubtedly furnish a new country for thousands of DX'ers. Tromelin ranked number 1 on the recent WGDXC poll of most needed DX countries.

Another DX development that promises to liven the scene is Hammarlund's new DX-pedition-of-the-month program. On the schedule are Ocean Island (VR1N) and Nauru (VK9BH) for May and the Solomon Islands (VR4CB) for June. Operation will be on all bands, CW and SSB, so have a listen and good hunting.

73 & DX
Len, W5LGG

WITH THE BEXAR COUNTY AREC

Our Our Compliments to Bob, K5UWS for his good work in the code and theory class at W5SC. Attendance is holding up well and it looks as though we'll have an ambitious group of new amateurs in our midst soon.

W5VPQ, and W5TSE have moved to their new Qth and the Thursday evening sessions of the Bexar County 6 meter emergency nets will be controlled from there.

Talked to EC, W5FQA, a former San Antonian, and he says he enjoys The Exciter and would like to hear from more San Antonio stations.

Bexar County emergency net and District 7 Hurricane watch net activity has dropped considerably the Past Month. This must be due to Spring, yard work etc. Seriously though, check in if at all possible with any of the nets you have capability for. Our local AREC population presently stands at 44 full members and 14 limited members. Of these it seems that the limited members seem the Most active.

It is good to hear from you on the net whether you have anything to add or not. The fact that your equipment is operating properly and your NCS or emergency coordinator knows it by on the air participation is indeed reassuring.

A station that is never heard from is an unknown quantity. Dust the cobwebs off the Chassis, plug the mike in and lets hear from you.

We would like to express our gratitude to W5IBN, W5LRQ, K5LLK and K5LBU for their help at W5SC.

Our thanks also to the old faithfuls on the District 7 Hurricane watch net, W5DFM, K5IQJ, K5HUS, and W5BRC.

Charlie, W5BRC, Kenedy, Texas is presently rebuilding a bigger and louder SSB Monster so we will probably never hear from him again (on AM that is). Joe K5HRP, has gone back to school for a few eeks if you're wondering whatever happened to him.

Other stations heard doing a service to Amateur Radio are W5EUI, K9SFA/5, K5MOF, W5KLV and W5EZY. Keep up the Good Work.

73, Lee, K5HZR
Emergency Coordinator San Antonio/Bexar County

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